

**Amendments to the Claims****Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for making a connection on a mining dragline termination for a wire rope having a first end and a second end, comprising the steps of:
  - a. providing a multistrand steel mining dragline of between 4 and 7 inches in diameter having a first end and a second end;
    - [[a]][b]. inserting the first end into a mold, wherein the mold comprises a mold opening;
    - [[b]][c]. placing a crucible with a crucible opening over the mold wherein the mold opening is in fluid communication with the crucible opening;
    - [[c]][d]. placing a separator in the crucible over the crucible opening;
    - [[d]][e]. adding an exothermic metallic material to the crucible;
    - [[e]][f]. placing a baffle on top of the crucible;
    - [[f]][g]. igniting the exothermic metallic material forming a molten material which liquefies the separator in the crucible;
    - [[g]][h]. flowing the molten material into the mold around the first end forming a frustroconical termination capable of sustaining a higher break force than the wire rope;
    - [[h]][i]. providing a socket, weighing between 1500 lbs. and 2800 lbs., having a slotted opening parallel to the longitudinal axis of the ~~wire rope~~ mining dragline, and having an open frustroconical portion;
    - [[i]][j]. providing a pair of connector holes in the socket generally perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the ~~wire rope~~ mining dragline;
    - [[j]][k]. inserting the wire rope into the slotted opening from a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the ~~wire rope~~ mining dragline;

[[k]][1]. abutting the frustroconical termination against the open frustroconical portion;  
and

[[l]][m]. connecting at least one of the pair of ~~the~~ connector holes to a drag chain  
connected to a mining excavation bucket.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Canceled).

4. (Canceled).

5. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the mold forms the frustroconical  
termination into a male connection.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Canceled).

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the exothermic metallic material comprises a  
powdered metallic alloy.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the powdered metallic allo[[w]][y]  
is drawn from the group of an aluminum, an aluminum alloy, a copper, a copper alloy, and  
oxides thereof aluminum, copper and tin.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Canceled).
12. (Canceled).
13. (Canceled).
14. (Currently Amended) A method for making a termination for a wire rope having a first end and a second end, comprising the steps of
  - a. providing that the wire rope be of a diameter between about 4 inches and about 7 inches;
  - [[a]][b]. inserting the first end into a mold, wherein the mold comprises a mold opening;
  - [[b]][c]. pouring a liquid adhesive into the mold through the mold opening;
  - [[c]][d]. allowing the liquid adhesive to cure forming a frustroconical termination capable of sustaining a higher break force than the wire rope;
  - [[d]][e]. producing a socket, weighing between 1500 lbs and 2800 lbs., having a slotted opening parallel to the longitudinal axis of the wire rope, an open frustroconical portion and a pair of connector holes generally perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the wire rope;
  - [[e]][f]. inserting the frustroconical termination into the slotted opening using a force applied to the wire rope perpendicularly to the longitudinal axis of the wire rope; and
  - [[f]][g]. connecting the at least one of the pair of connector holes to a drag chain connected to a mining excavation bucket.
15. (Canceled).
16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the wire rope is a single strand rope or a

multi-strand rope.

17. (Canceled).

18. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the mold forms the frustroconical termination into a male connection.

19. (Canceled).

20. (Canceled).

21. (Canceled).

22. (Canceled).

23. (Canceled).

24. (Canceled).